

## REMARKS

The Examiner has indicated that the claims should be renumbered as 35-67. The undersigned appreciates the Examiner's attention to this; the claims have been renumbered as required. None of the amendments made herein constitutes the addition of new matter.

The Patent Office has required restriction under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372 to one of the following groups of claims, which are alleged to each represent a single invention:

Group I, claims 35-52, 63 and 64, drawn to the technical feature of a complex comprising the V3 loop of gp120 and Tat.

Group II, Claims 53-55, drawn to the technical feature of a method of generating antibodies using the complex of Group I.

Group III, claims 56 and 57, drawn to the technical feature of an antibody.

Group IV, claims 58-60, drawn to the technical feature of a method of immunization using the antibody of Group III.

Group V, claims 61, 62, 65, and 66, drawn to a method of immunizing using the complex of Group I.

Group VI, claim 67, drawn to a method detecting antibodies using the complex of Group I.

Applicant elects the claims of Group I (claims 35-52, 63 and 64) for examination with traverse. Traverse is made on the ground that the groups identified by the examiner are linked by the complex comprising the V3 loop of gp120 and Tat and encompass methods of making and using that complex. The Examiner has cited a passage in the specification which allegedly states that the complex comprising the V3 loop of gp120 and Tat is not required in all circumstances. However, a review of the claims indicates that all of the currently pending claims require the complex or its use, directly or indirectly. Thus,

USSN 10/597,926  
Filed August 11, 2006  
Requirement for Restriction mailed October 9, 2008  
Response dated November 4, 2008

Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has erred in framing and supporting the rejection, and the requirement for restriction should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

It is believed that the present amendment does not require the payment of any fees, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.16-1.17. If this is incorrect, however, please charge any fees due under the foregoing Rules to Deposit Account No. 07-1969.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorney Docket No. 114-06  
November 4, 2008